



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/650,260	08/29/2000	Yao-Ching Liu	16415-0020	9482
32294	7590	04/05/2006	EXAMINER	
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.				TSEGAYE, SABA
14TH FLOOR				ART UNIT
8000 TOWERS CRESCENT				PAPER NUMBER
TYSONS CORNER, VA 22182				2616

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/650,260	LIU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Saba Tsegaye	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 February 2006.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-26, 28, 29 and 31-40 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 28, 29 and 32-40 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-26 and 31 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 2/24/06. Claims 1-26, 28, 29 and 31-40 are pending. Claims 28, 29, 32-40 are allowed. Claims 1-26 and 31 are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1:

Paragraph 5, line 2, the phrase “said output logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 7, line 1, the phrase “said output logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 7, line 2, the phrase “said associated pause signal” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 3:

Paragraph 6, line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 7, line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 7, line 1, the phrase “a second comparator unit” is confusing because there is no mention of a first comparator unit.

Paragraph 7, line 1-2, the phrase “said input count value” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 8, line 1, the phrase “said output logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 4:

Paragraph 6, line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 8, line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 11 (after wherein), line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 12, line 1, the phrase “said output logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 8:

Line 4, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 11:

Paragraph 6, line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 8, line 1, the phrase “*said output logic unit* further including” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 16:

Paragraph 4, line 1, the phrase “said at least on input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 4, line 3, the phrase “said packet routing unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 8, line 1, the phrase “said output logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 8, line 2, the phrase “said associated pause signal” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 18:

Paragraph 7, line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 8, line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 8, line 1, the phrase “a second comparator unit” is confusing because there is no mention of a first comparator unit.

Paragraph 8, line 1-2, the phrase “said input count value” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 9, line 1, the phrase “said output logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 19:

Paragraph 7, line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 12 (after wherein), line 1, the phrase “said input logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Paragraph 13, line 1, the phrase “said output logic unit” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 31:

Steps “f” and “g” are identical with steps “f” and “g” of claim 32.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 28, 29 and 32-40 are allowed.
5. Claims 1-26 and 31 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26, 28, 29 and 31-40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saba Tsegaye whose telephone number is (571) 272-3091. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00), First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on (571) 272-7629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ST
March 31, 2006



DORIS H. TO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600